

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 18-20 to label each "Prior Art."

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

## **REMARKS**

Applicant will address each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

### **Drawings**

In the Office Action, the Examiner is requiring that Figs. 18-20 be designated "Prior Art." As Applicant has now done so, it is requested that that this objection be withdrawn.

### **Specification**

The Examiner is also requesting that "current supply line 3808" on page 56 of the specification be changed to "current supply line 3807" so that the specification is consistent with the drawings. Applicant has done so, and it is requested that this objection now be withdrawn.

### **Double Patenting**

The Examiner further rejects Claims 1-67 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-49 of U.S. Patent no. 6,548,960. As Applicant is still trying to overcome the §103 rejections and the claims may not be in their final form, it is requested that this rejection be held in abeyance until the other rejections have been overcome.

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner has the following rejections under 35 USC §103<sup>1</sup>:

#### Claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, 10, 13-15, 17 and 19

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, 10, 13-15, 17 and 19 as being unpatentable over Yamada et al. in view of Shiotani et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

More specifically, independent Claim 1 recites that the eliminating TFT is controlled by the second gate signal line driver circuit while independent Claims 7 and 13 recite a gate electrode of the eliminating TFT is connected to the second gate signal line.

The Examiner admits that Yamada does not disclose either of these features. However, the Examiner contends that Shiotani teaches an eliminating TFT for controlling EL driving TFT and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Shiotani in the Yamada system and control the eliminating TFT by the second gate driver circuit. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

First, it cannot be disputed that neither of the cited references discloses an eliminating TFT controlled by the second gate signal line driver circuit nor a gate electrode of the eliminating TFT connected to the second gate signal line, as in the rejected claims of the present application.

In addition, with respect to independent Claims 7 and 13, the Examiner appears to be contending that one of a source and drain region of the alleged eliminating TFT of Shiotani is connected to a power supply line, and another [source and drain region] is connected to the gate

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<sup>1</sup>It is noted that Claims 22-59 are not rejected under §103 and Claims 3, 9 and 18 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

electrode (which the Examiner states is equivalent to drain or source) of the alleged EL driving TFT.<sup>2</sup> Hence, the Examiner seems to regard the drain or source of the alleged EL driving TFT in Shiotani as equivalent to the gate electrode of the Claims 7 and 13 (see e.g. page 6, lines 13 to 19 of the Office Action). Applicant respectfully disagrees. A gate electrode of a TFT is not equivalent to a source or drain thereof. For example, a gate of a TFT is applied with a voltage, resulting in forming a channel in a channel forming region of an active layer of a TFT, while a source or a drain region is used for a region to/from which electric current is flown. If one of the source or the drain of the eliminating TFT is connected to the source or the drain of the driving TFT, the operation of the circuit of the pixel including the eliminating TFT would be quite different compared to the case where the source or the drain of the eliminating TFT is connected to the gate electrode of the driving TFT. Hence, the Examiner's position is technically incorrect.

Further, Yamada is based on Shiotani and other Japanese applications. In the Office Action, the Examiner says that Drawing 8 from Shiotani shows an eliminating TFT<sup>3</sup>, and that it would be obvious to insert the alleged eliminating TFT from Shiotani into the circuit in Yamada. However, it is noted that even though Yamada is based on Shiotani, Yamada decided not to include the circuit of Drawing 8 of Shiotani in the Yamada U.S. patent.

Further, where would one skilled in the art insert this alleged eliminating TFT from Shiotani in the circuit of Yamada? Which circuit in Yamada would be modified? Why and how? There appears to be no teaching, suggestion or motivation for where the alleged eliminated TFT can be inserted. MPEP §2143.01 clearly states that there must be some motivation to combine references or a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. As no such suggestion

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<sup>2</sup> It is assumed that the Examiner's reference to Drawing 6 in Shiotani for this rejection is incorrect (as Drawing 6 does not include "Ps" or "S2") and that the Examiner meant to refer to Drawing 8 in Shiotani.

<sup>3</sup> Applicant does not agree that Shiotani discloses an eliminating TFT.

or motivation exists with regard to this rejection, no prima facie case has been established.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that this combination of references is improper and that the rejected claims are patentable thereover, and requests that the rejection based thereon be withdrawn.

#### Claims 5, 11 and 20

The Examiner also rejects Claims 5, 11 and 20 as being unpatentable over Yamada et al. and Shiotani et al. and further in view of Chiu. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these claims is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims, these claims are also patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

#### Claims 6, 12 and 21

The Examiner also rejects Claims 6, 12 and 21 as being unpatentable over Yamada et al. and Shiotani et al. and further in view of Okayama et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these claims is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims, these claims are also patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

#### Claim 16

The Examiner also rejects Claim 16 as being unpatentable over Yamada et al. and Shiotani et al. and further in view of Hsieh. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

This claim is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims, this claim is also patentable over the cited references, and it is

respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

#### Claims 60-61, 64-65

The Examiner also rejects Claims 60-61, 64-65 as being unpatentable over Osada et al. in view of Yamada et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner contends that the scanning electrode driver (reference numeral 3) of Fig. 1 of Osada corresponds to the second gate signal line driver circuit of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

However, in order to advance the prosecution of this application and clarify the difference between the claimed invention and the cited references, Applicant has amended independent Claims 60 and 64 to recite that each of the pixels comprises a second TFT connected to the second gate signal line driver circuit.

In contrast, the scanning electrode driver 3 in Osada is not connected to any TFT. Hence, even if the Examiner's contentions regarding Osada were correct and that Yamada could be combined with Osada (neither of which Applicant admits), the alleged combination would still fail to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

#### Claims 62 and 66

Claims 62 and 66 are rejected as being unpatentable over Yamada et al. and Osada et al. And further in view of Chiu. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these claims is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims, these claims are also patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 63 and 67

Claims 63 and 67 are rejected as being unpatentable over Yamada et al. and Osada et al. and further in view of Okayama et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these claims is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims, these claims are also patentable over the cited references, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that all of the rejections under §103 has been overcome, and it is requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion


Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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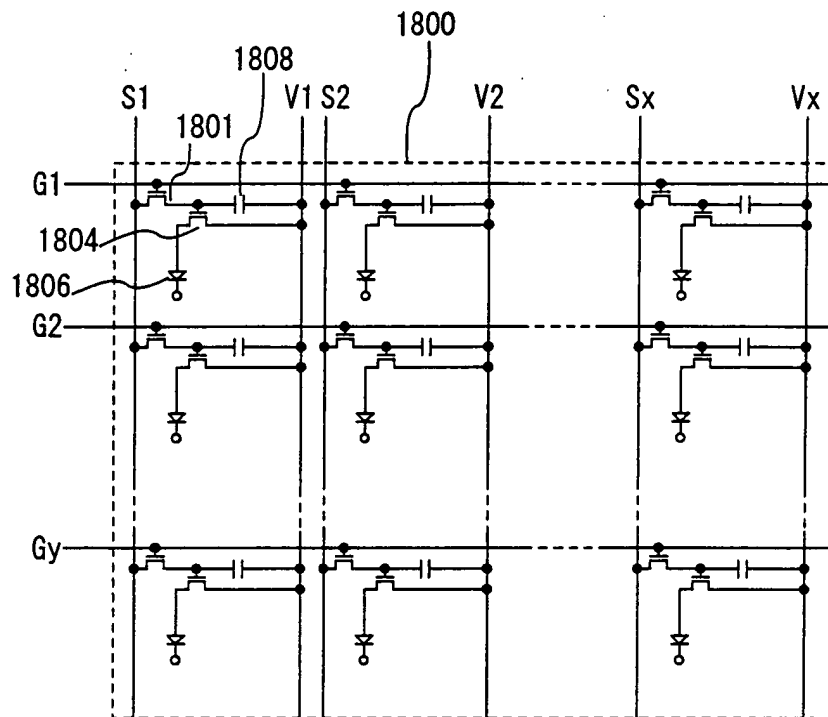


FIG. 18

PRIOR ART



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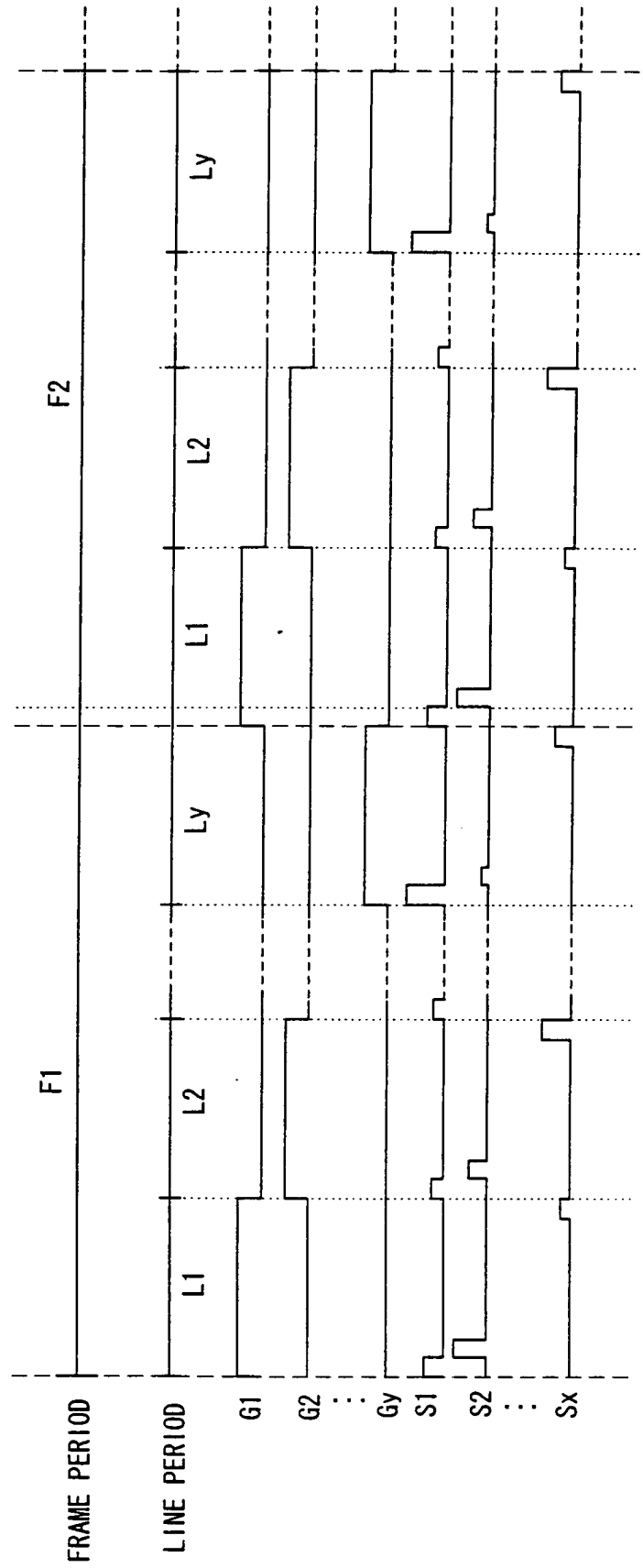


FIG. 19

PRIOR ART

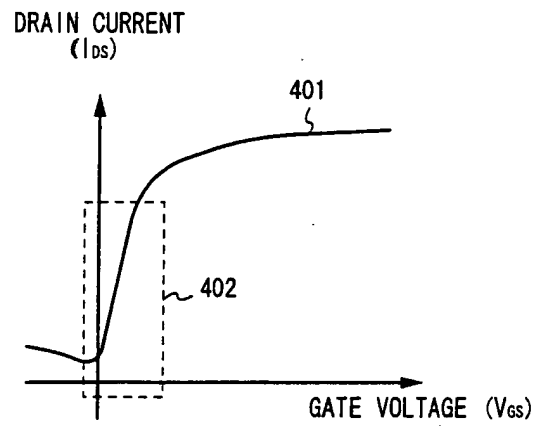


FIG. 20A PRIOR ART

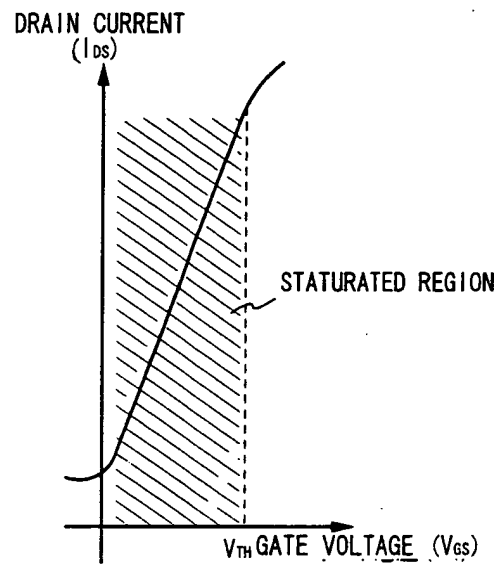


FIG. 20B PRIOR ART